



BC CONFEDERATION OF PARENT ADVISORY COUNCILS

The collective voice of parents for the best possible public education of all children in BC

NewsBytes

Volume 11, Issue 2 – November 24, 2010

The 2010 Fall Conference was a huge success with high profile speakers, many exciting workshops and over 30 exhibitors. Expect to receive a separate email which will include information and highlights from the Conference and the Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM).

Share your Event

Does your PAC/DPAC have an event, workshop, seminar or meeting happening in your area which you would like to share? If so, please let us know about it and we will post the information on our **New** [Regional/Provincial Section](#) of the website.

Healthy Schools Network

Reports of healthy-schools initiatives from across British Columbia enliven the November 2010 issue of [Healthy Schools Network Newsletter](#). Published by BC's Directorate of Agencies for School Health (DASH), the newsletter apprises educators and all citizens concerned about children's health with the latest news and developments, resources and research, and Network activities. Interested in more information on an article in the newsletter? [Contact the editor](#).

Home-to-School Connections Guide: Tips, Tech Tools, and Strategies for Improving Family-to-School Communication

Edutopia is thrilled to share with you the latest classroom resource guide highlighting new solutions for connecting home and school in order to improve student learning and success. Whether you're a teacher, parent, or district administrator, this new guide provides you with relevant and valuable tools and resources for how best to strengthen the bonds between schools, families, and communities. <http://www.edutopia.org/>

Here to Help is a project of the BC Partners for Mental Health and Addictions Information who are working together to help individuals and families better manage mental health and substance use problems. <http://www.heretohelp.bc.ca/>

New Plan to Address Mental Health and Substance Use The Province of BC has released a [ten year plan](#) to address mental health and substance use in BC. Much of the plan focuses on early intervention measures with children, youth and families. Among the plans are endorsements for home visitation and parenting programs.

Passages to Canada is one of the Historica-Dominion Institute's flagship educational programs. Since 2002, more than 100,000 students & New Canadians across the country have heard the inspiring personal stories of immigration from some of Canada's most successful immigrants. Hear how it feels to leave one's homeland and to arrive in a new and strange place; how it feels to encounter racism and misunderstandings about one's

Click the buttons below for full information



culture; how it feels to try to fit in and to learn a new language and have to start over; how it feels to realize that you have indeed found a new home in Canada. To book a free speaker visit <http://passagestocanada.com/en/>

Help Keep Roots of Empathy Running in BC

Roots of Empathy, the classroom program that has been shown to reduce bullying and aggression, needs your help. The program has been severely impacted by provincial cutbacks since 2009-10, and is facing the potential loss of an estimated 75% of its BC programs, affecting thousands of children. Parents across the province have always been great champions for the program, which has been proven to increase children's emotional understanding and empathy. If you would like to help with efforts to keep the program running in your community or elsewhere in BC, please contact Jessie Deacon at (604) 713-5230 or jdeacon@rootsofempathy.org. You can also visit [Put BC Babies Back to Work](#)

The BCGA School Golf Program, *Playground to Fairway*, is offered co-operatively by the British Columbia Golf Association and its partners to ensure the future of golf in Canada, and more specifically, British Columbia. The program aims to raise awareness of the game by introducing golf to school-aged children throughout the province in a basic and fun format. The program uses the "Learn to Play" stage of development to reach children in grades 4, 5, and 6 or ages 8 through 12. Recognizing class structure and scheduling constraints, lessons are adapted to meet each school's requirements. The program is available October to December for your school district. www.playgroundtofairway.org

Wow Butter - Please visit www.wowbutter.com and learn how this new peanut replacement designed and developed to protect the millions of kids and adults who suffer from life threatening peanut and tree nut allergies and to nourish the tens of millions of non-allergic school kids is making a difference in schools. Down load some or all of the information and take it to your school councils and share the information with parents and school staff. This doesn't make sense??

Rise and shine for the BTV school grant

Egg-citing news! **Breakfast TV's Be There for Schools** grant initiative is back for its third year. As before, BTV will award eight \$1,000 grants to elementary or middle schools within the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley. All a school has to do is [submit an entry](#), being sure to describe what educational use the grant would be put toward. Deadline: April 1, 2011. A Citytv representative will randomly select eight finalists, who will then be featured on BTV. Questions? [Contact Breakfast TV's Margaret Wong](#).

Embrace BC is a government-sponsored web site to promote multiculturalism and reduce racism in BC. Resources can be used by youth to develop personal pride and accountability in creating positive change in their communities and to understand that they have the ability to prevent racism. <http://www.embracebc.ca>

NewsBytes is a regular e-mail communication sent to BCCPAC members to highlight items of interest. Others may also subscribe to NewsBytes. Contact BCCPAC at:

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Feel free to share this communication with others.

